Implications of the Autonomy Resolution of J&K

405. SHRIMATI GEETHA VANGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the discussions held in the special session of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly held recently to discuss autonomy; and

(b) the implications of the adopted resolution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The J&K Assembly have passed resolution, demanding from the Union/State Government to take steps for implementation of recommendations of State Autonomy Committee (SAC).

The Union Government has decided not to accept the resolution passed by the J&K Assembly on the report of the SAC.

Bomb Blasts in Christian Churches

406. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether very recently a series of bomb blasts had taken place in Christian Churches in Goa, Karnataka, Rajasthan and other places;

(b) whether Government have inquired into these incidents of blasts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. A series of bomb blasts had taken place recently in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Goa.

(b) and (c) After sustained investigations, it has been established that the activists of an organization called Deendar Anjuman are involved in these incidents and five culprits have already been arrested.

Use of Foreign Funds for Political and Religious Activities

407. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Non-Governmental Organisations in North-Eastern States are carrying on political and religious activities amongst the tribals by using foreign funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since how long this practice has been continuing and by which NGOs; and

(c) to what extent the interests of the tribals are safeguarded from the activities of such NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, an association, including any association operating in the North Eastern States, having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme can accept foreign contribution after it registers itself with the Central Government or obtains its prior permission to accept foreign contribution. An organisation of a political nature, not being a political party, notified as such by the Central Government, cannot accept foreign contribution except with the prior permission of the Central Government.

(c) The said Act empowers the Central Government to take action against an association found contravening any provision of the Act including acceptance of foreign contribution without registration or prior permission, or not properly utilising it for the stated purposes and objectives. The action includes placing the association in the prior permission category, prohibiting it from receiving foreign contribution, freezing its bank account and prosecuting it in a court of law.

Sarkaria Commission Report

408. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sarkaria Commission in their report recommended devolution of more financial and administrative powers to the States; and

(b) if so, what suitable steps Government would take to ensure harmonious Centre-State relations and more financial and administrative powers to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The report of the Sarkaria Commission covers issues which have a direct bearing on Centre-State relations in financial, legislative and administrative spheres. Out of 247 recommendations made by the Commission, the Inter-State Council has taken decision on 171 recommendations. These have been sent to the different Ministries for implementation.